

**NEWINGTON PARKS & RECREATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
TUESDAY, May 12, 2015
Amended Minutes**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Don Woods called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm

II. ROLL CALL

Board: Eileen Francolino, Mary Udice, Ed Marchion, Jen Win-Johnson, Don Woods, Ken Leggo, Bill DeBlasio, Beth Manke, Richard Khentigan

Board Members Absent:

Staff: Karen Gallicchio

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF April 7, 2015

Eileen Francolino made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 7, 2015 meeting. Mary Udice seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 9-0 vote.

**IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:
NONE**

V. CORRESPONDENCE/COMMUNICATIONS/REPORTS

From Karen Gallicchio: Interviews are now being conducted to fill Bruce Till's position, top three candidates have been chosen. School paving projects may have a minor impact on programs but Parks and Rec. Dept. will just switch locations for the time. There is a potential issue at the Tennis Courts near Mill Pond Park because of the Har-Tru material which may be hazardous, testing will be done and someone will be meeting with Mark to give a report within 48 hours. Courts will be open by Memorial Day. There is a part-time employee retiring. He has been with the department since the 1960's. The Park's and Rec. Dept. will present him with a clock at Badminton tomorrow night.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

Golf Tournament:

Golf Tournament was successful yesterday. No numbers yet, but it does show a profit. There were approximately 72 to 74 golfers. Food was better than last year.

Extravaganza:

All important contracts are all set. Karen would like to meet to discuss the extravaganza prior to the next board meeting at 6:30 pm, June 9th. Eileen mentioned hiring food truck instead of pizza, but if there is pizza then get less than last year.

Community Center Update:

Still very much in planning stages, existing structure will most likely be torn down and a brand new facility, smaller square footage around 95,000 square feet for the new facility. It looks good for the Parks and Rec. Dept., the new facility would possibly have 2 gyms, teen center and new offices roughly around 32,000 square feet. The new Town Hall/Community Center facility is still to be determined but could be presented at the referendum in three ways, Town Hall/Community Center with 2 gyms, Town Hall/Community Center with 1 gym, Town Hall.

Don Woods took a roll call vote during this meeting and the entire board of the Parks and Rec. Dept. that were present at this meeting on May 12th were all in favor of a facility with 2 gyms. The demolition would take place all at once and all offices will be displaced all at once. The project is approximately 35 million dollars. Police Department is not included in this project that building will not be touched. Don suggested that members of the Board attend the Building Committee meetings. Public support is low for this project. The Building Committee meetings are listed on the Town Website. As of now, all schools and available space is being utilized but there is not enough room for all the Parks and Rec. programs. Jen Win-Johnson mentioned that the Board should reach out to the public and participants of the adult programs, leaders and parents involved in all of the programs and reiterate how important this facility is and that this is an opportunity for everyone. Don Woods mentioned that this new facility is a once in a life time for everyone and should last the next 50 to 100 years.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

Ice Cream Vendor/Nick Zindros:

Have a contract with Nick Zindros as the Ice cream vendor for the Parks. He is trustworthy and no issues.

Jammed 4 Thyme Food Truck:

Food truck with permit and health certificate, sells hot dogs, hamburgers, wings. He is asking permission to go into the parks in town. He can not go into parks that have concessions. Don mentioned that since the Board does not know the proper procedure, check with John first.

Eileen mentioned that maybe he would like to come on Friday night of the Extravaganza to the concert.

Memorial Bench for Dan Gallicchio:

He was very long term Board member and Chairperson of the Parks and Recreation Department and the driving force of the early days of the Parks and Rec. Dept. Don spoke with his family and they are in favor of a memorial bench and plaque in his honor in Mill Pond Park. The Enterprise Fund should pay for bench and plaque.

MOTION: A motion was made by Ed Marchion to put up a memorial bench for Dan Gallicchio in one of the parks. Ken Leggo, seconded the motion, all were in favor and the motion was passed with a 9-0 vote.

Election of Vice Chair:

Don Woods nominated Eileen Francolino for Vice Chair. **MOTION: A motion was made by Ed Marchion. Mary Udice, seconded the motion, all were in favor and the motion was passed with a 9-0 vote.**

Extras:

Bill DeBlasio last Friday Newington was awarded all-stars for baseball. Will be televised on CPTV 500-1000 people are expected. This will take place the last week of July. Anyone who can help with painting, fence work make everything look top notch we have one of the best fields in the State. Auxiliary parking will be needed.

Jen Win-Johnson wants to know who is responsible for cleaning the rocks on Cedar Mountain that were spray-painted.

VIII. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

None

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: A motion was made by Richard Khetigan. Ken Leggo, seconded the motion, all were in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 pm with a 9-0 vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Jay